



[10191/857]

P. Lawrence  
#235  
1/29/02

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Gerhard SCHNEIDER et al.  
Serial No. : 09/176,124 —  
Filed : October 21, 1998  
For : PLANAR SENSOR ELEMENT  
Examiner : Ta Tung  
Art Unit : 1743

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

By the United States Postal Service or first class mail or by air mail,  
addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington,  
D.C. 20231, or

Date: 4/10/02 Am. 3

Attn: Examiner Not Notarized

KENYON & KENYON

**AMENDMENT**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of January 2, 2002, kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as follows:

1. (Five Times Amended) A planar sensor element for determining at least one gas component, comprising:

a layer structure including:

a measuring cell layer;

a covering layer;

a heating element disposed between the measuring cell layer and the covering layer and generating a heating power, a layer-shaped heating conductor being embedded in the heating element,

wherein the layer-shaped heating conductor is arranged in a layer plane of the layer structure to obtain an at least approximately homogeneous distribution of the heating power over a cross-section of the sensor element perpendicular to the layer structure; and

wherein the layer plane is centered with respect to the sensor element.

04/19/2002 NM0HANNI 00000045 110600 09176124

01 FC:115 NYO 110-00-SN 1

RECEIVED  
APR 19 2002  
TC 1700